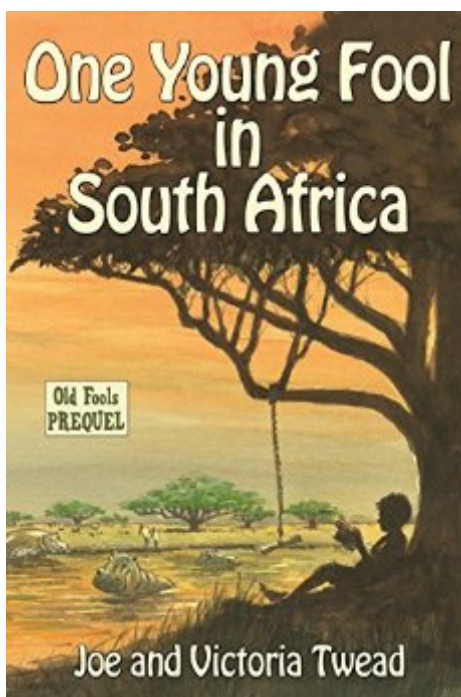


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One Young Fool In South Africa (Old Fools Book 6)



Synopsis

• Have I ever told you about my seventh birthday? • Only a million times. • Who is Joe Twead? Where did he come from? What happened before Joe met Victoria and they moved to a crazy Spanish mountain village? Dark, funny, and often magical, Joe vividly paints his childhood memories despite constant heckling from Victoria at his elbow as he writes.

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Customer Reviews

As a South African I really enjoyed this book. What could have been a sad story (no spoilers here) actually turns into a not-at-all-bad childhood and schooldays story. Yes, it has pathos and sadness, but it's also funny. One thing I would have liked is a more chronologically told history. Joe does jump from nine year old to high school boy and back, and to ages in between. Victoria is right when she tells Joe that he gets too long-winded with some descriptions, but we'll forgive that! I was very relieved that he did not delve into South African politics -- at that same age I knew and understood very little of the politics of the day, as all youngsters then, and I was terrified he'll fall into that trap so beloved of people writing about South Africa: vastly exaggerating the political situation for the sake

of sensation and because it seems a "popular" thing to do. But he never discusses politics and give us an honest story of his youth and high school here. It's not a story with wild ups and downs and incredible adventures, but it's enjoyable. Just one thing, Joe, we do have Google to help -- and you should not have spelled the names wrong of those two well-known camps in the Kruger National Park -- it's Skukuza and Pretoriuskop!

This book captures your heart and soul. The author has climbed from relative obscurity as the beloved husband in the mule series to a full blown author in his own right with the same astounding sense of humour as his wife. I fully expect this book to join those of Victoria Tread on the New York Times best seller list. He took me back to my own boarding school days in 50s and 60s England and elicited both laughs and tears. I hope Joe will share with his readers his thoughts and feelings about his time in Spain. Being someone who constantly has to struggle with word counts (why not use 100 even if one or two would do) I did enjoy the descriptions of architectural details of the home. Lastly the interplay between two fabulous people who I have come to love and respect ties together so well the chicken series to date. As always I eagerly await the next installments of their life story. Well done Joe.....no longer one author living under your roof

Lots of us were waiting on Joe's book. It was interesting reading it because he would write about his life and then he would have an area in italics where he was talking to his wife. Joe grew up in South Africa and as his mother wasn't able to take care of him he was put in three different homes. The first one was horrendous for a boy who was allowed to roam free, then a good one and then the one that he stayed in until he was 18. While horrible things happened to him this isn't just a sad book but he shares some wonderful stories of camping and finding other people to love him. Victoria was correct Joe--sometimes there was just too much "architect" information and I had to skim. But when the book ended it was like--what!! I need to know the information going forward from there!! I recommend this book and hey Joe--get busy we need the sequel.

I loved this book. Honestly written, warts and all, and a good reminder to us that even though we all have parts of our lives where that we'd love to go back and behave better, we can still turn out OK in the end. Joe's resilience during a truly difficult childhood and adolescence is impressive. He's inspired me to jot down childhood memories as they come to mind (don't worry, no book in my future) and to remember those people who have helped along my own life path. The writing style is very good, and Victoria's inserts are a well judged delight. I hope there is a sequel.

I cannot imagine being separated from a mother at such an early age. Nor enduring what he went through after that. Yet the next two places helped contribute to the man he is today. I especially enjoyed the choice to interject in italics his conversations with Vickie while writing. I look forward to another memoir where this one leaves off up until he meets his wife. Very well done. Thank you.

We got to know Joe through his wife Victoria's delightful memoirs about their expat life in Spain. Joe's memories about growing up in children and boys homes in South Africa was captivating and endearing from the first page on. He shares with a refreshing honesty some dark, many happy and often bitter sweet recollections of reaching adulthood without the support of a family. My heart went out to the little boy who didn't have the best start life, but proves that no matter what one is handed, one can make the best out of it. Congratulations Joe to a great start in a hopefully flourishing writing career.

Very well written and very interesting. I read it in two days, couldn't put it down. I love it when a book pulls you in, and of course the most interesting is it is non-fiction, can't wait for the next chapter in Joe's life. Look forward to reading another book soon!

A must read. Humor instilled over a tragic childhood. Joe Twead makes appreciate life. You become part of his experiences whether sad or happy. His bravery as a child really shines through. Made him an extraordinary man. He leaves you wanting more

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